

# Type dictionary in python.

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**Goal:** Learn about dictionaries in python.

A dictionary allows you to associate values index by keys. Dictionaries can be created using values in curly braces like this:

```
a = {  
    "name" : "CCM3",  
    "center" : "NCAR,"  
    "model_of" : "Atmosphere"  
}
```

To access members of the dictionary, we use the key-indexing facility:

```
model_name = a["model"]  
modelling_center = a["center"]
```

The **keys** associated with a dictionary can be obtained as a list by:

```
b = a.keys()
```

You can check the dictionary membership by using the ***has\_key()*** method:

```
if a.has_key("model_of"):  
    print a["model_of"]  
else:  
    print "Unknown model of"
```

## NOTE:

Dictionaries have no concept of order among elements. It is incorrect to say that the elements are "out of order"; they are simply unordered.

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